

Message

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sent: 5/15/2017 3:52:53 PM
To: Robinson, Valois [Robinson.Valois@epa.gov]
Subject: Deny Permits for Dewey-Burdock Uranium Mine

Dear EPA,

We have visited the Black Hills region many times over the years. It has magnificent scenery and wildlife values, plus lots of culture and history. It draws tourists from all over the world. This area is now a tourism and recreation-based economy, not mining-based as in the past. Allowing uranium mining on such a scenic landscape is bound to cause major environmental problems such as water, air and noise pollution. We thus want to comment on the Underground Injection Control Program's Draft Permits for the Proposed Dewey-Burdock Uranium Mine and Deep Disposal Wells.

The proposed mine and deep disposal wells are in an area that is documented to have faults, fractures, breccia pipes, and over 7000 old boreholes that have not been properly plugged. It will be impossible to contain mining fluids or waste liquids, and contamination of groundwater resources is very likely.

We are also concerned that adequate oversight of the quality of liquid wastes pumped into the Minnelusa Formation through the proposed deep disposal wells will be inadequate, and groundwater is likely to be contaminated.

A full survey of cultural and historical sites is needed before mining or deep disposal is allowed. Cultural and historical sites must be protected.

The history of uranium mining indicates that uranium mining cannot be done without creating and leaving contamination. Groundwater has never been returned to its original condition at any In-Situ leach uranium mine in the U.S. These permits should not be issued until it can be demonstrated that groundwater resources will be protected.

We expect that you will do what is in best interest of the American people, not profit-driven industry.

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